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LETTER FROM DEVERALL -- March 18, 1959

Re: The December Congress of the ICFU and the
Recent meeting of the ICFU Sub-Committee
in Geneva.

1. The recent meeting of the ICFU Sub-Committee in Geneva (14-15 March 1959) was characterized by the following somewhat dramatic developments.
 - a) Sir Vincent Tammam arrived by plane and looked as if he were lying. Within a matter of hours he was found to have acute appendicitis, left Geneva, and returned to London very sick and is now in a hospital recovering from an operation;
 - b) Last Thursday or Friday the two cronies of the office, Oldenbrook and Fred Strauss, had a violent quarrel over financial problems of the ICFU. The upshot was that Strauss refused to go to Geneva and Gottfurcht, who had been told he could not go, was ultimately invited by Oldenbrook in order to cover the absence of Strauss;
 - c) Charlie Millard launched a horrible attack on the USA and the AFL-CIO, he was engaged bitterly by James Carey, and the upshot was that Carey lashed Millard and Millard announced to those present (Schmitzler, Oldenbrook, etc.) that he was finished and would resign effective the July meeting of the ICFU Executive Board. On return to Brussels on Tuesday, Millard collapsed in his office, was incoherent, and was taken home by his lady secretary and the driver of the ICFU;
 - d) With Millard out of the office in doctor's care for the nonce, Jay Krana has returned from Geneva ahead of schedule and seems to be thoroughly frightened because of the gossip in the office (which has been going on for over a year) that he has been deliberately sending Charlie on long airplane trips in an effort to kill Millard off and be done with the problem.
2. Finally, when in Geneva during the past few days, I have conferred with certain ITS officials, and the new Secretary of the ITS Conference (Mr. Zorka Zorka, an old and intimate friend from my early days in Brussels). It can be confirmed that the ITS have completed the break with the ICFU and the leadership of Oldenbrook, that the ITS can independently finance their own office and organization (under Zorka in Geneva) and that they are anxious to work with the AFL-CIO in launching what can be called independent activities throughout the economically underdeveloped areas of the world.

In this connection, when Bill Schmitzler was at a luncheon this past Sunday with Oldenbrook and Company, Oldenbrook has agreed (he said he always did) that if any ITS affiliate or any national centre sends a request to the AFL-CIO for the aid, the AFL-CIO will nominate a man from the trade for the former, a general aide in the latter -- and the man in the former will go to the country as an ITS delegate at the expense of the AFL-CIO and, in the latter case, he will go as a representative of the ICFU, working under ICFU policy but paid by the AFL-CIO. The only provision is that the ICFU is to be informed of the fact and the name, and if Oldenbrook objects he will give his reasons to the AFL-CIO in writing. As we were talking with Bill Schmitzler on Sunday, the text of the promises Oldenbrook will be found in the immediate past several days.

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A prominent ILO friend of mine told me that O'Brien had made the concession to the AFL-CIO in order to get off as possible a candidate for his job this coming December. If I know O'Brien, this probably not very wide of the mark.

3. The following are some of the facts regarding the general statements made in the first paragraphs:

- (a) The departure of Sir Vincent Tewson cast a damper over the board meeting and has resulted in the postponement of many pressing problems (such as Africa) to the July Executive Board session in Brussels, even the IOFTU-AFL-CIO agreement with Oldenbrook of this past Sunday as I understand, subject to the agreement of Sir Vincent Tewson.
- (b) The bitter quarrel between Strauss and Oldenbrook is, I believe over the financial solvency of the IOFTU. Strauss has been increasingly critical of the waste of funds by the IOFTU not only through the Solidarity Fund but in other directions. He has taken the position (as he has told me privately) that if Krane and Millard continue to toss money out of the window at the current rate, the IOFTU reserve funds will be gone within a year and the IOFTU faces bankruptcy. Strauss is further of the mind that a wage increase is needed in order to retain the better elements of the staff; because I am heading the wage increase drive, Oldenbrook is bitterly opposed to any wage increase unless I agree to discharge several employees. The fight between Strauss and Oldenbrook is particularly significant as Strauss would never dare challenge Oldenbrook unless he had powerful support, i.e. Sir Vincent Tewson and the British T.U.O.
- (c) The Millard attack on the AFL-CIO and the UEA came, I understand from Bill, at the end of the Sunday luncheon when Charlie declared that the U.S. Government had awarded 10 travel grants to Ghanaian labor leaders for study in the U.S.A. Millard declared this to be going over the head of the IOFTU and launched a bitter attack on the AFL-CIO for not having intervened to quash the U.S. Government and its travel grants. Jim Carey (replied I understand that Schnitzler said little if anything) and really put Millard in his place. Millard was completely off-base and was told by Carey. The upshot of the fight, which I understand was quite bitter, was Charlie's promise that he would resign on or before the Executive Board this coming July. If Charlie really resigns (Bill took notes and the resignation is on the report), that means his special assistant Hallen goes and, more dramatically, it opens the door for Jay Krane to try and take over as Director of Organization.

After Charlie left Geneva and returned to Brussels in a very sick state, he phoned Jay Krane in Geneva (Tuesday noon, I understand) and had a chat with Krane informing him that he was very sick and could not make the long trip to Africa which Krane had planned for Millard. Krane agreed to return to Brussels early but, I was told, didn't even have the chance to tell Charlie he hoped he would soon be well. One week later the official resignation was received.

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Secretary was so sick that the ICFU driver had to pilot Charlie and his car back to his home.

- (d) Both Oldenbroek and Krane are frightened by the very real revolt of the IIS and their determination not only to run their own show but to work with the AFL-CIO and DGB in expanding independent operations. The key man in all of this is my old friend and confidante, Rerek Zofka, who has left the ICFU payroll and is now the independent secretary of the IIS organization in Geneva. As Poulson of Feed and Brink said Sunday night at a dinner party tendered by Schnitzler, the IIS setting up of its organization in Geneva and the expansion of independent activities means, in fact that the dying ICFU is already being succeeded by a "new international trade union organization." This is to me the most significant thing I learned in Geneva during the past few days.

Summary

1. Possibly the most interesting feature of the Millard explosion is that Jay Krane not only returned to Brussels post haste (arriving last night) but he called a meeting of his staff, including the stenographers who are friendly with me, to explain that Charlie had "gone mad" in Geneva and provoked the fight with the AFL-CIO.

I had dinner with the girls last night.

If I know Oldenbroek and Jay Krane, they charged Charlie up with the dope on Ghana and egged him into what he thought was an honest issue. When Millard tangled with the AFL-CIO in a fight which he could not possibly win, however, Oldenbroek and Krane miscalculated for it was not Schnitzler who led the attack but Jim Carey -- and a man regarded as friendly to the Administration of the ICFU. Jim was honestly incensed by the sheer stupidity of the Millard attack and he did a straightforward trade union job (from what I have heard of it. This has rattled Krane for it is not the so-called "Meany faction" causing the trouble but the so-called "Reuther-Carey" faction.

From what the girls have told me, Krane was very indefinite about who attacked Millard just as he has made no reference to the fact that Millard has resigned.

Krane and Oldenbroek have desired the resignation of Charlie Millard since he arrived in August 1956 -- but to have that resignation forced by Jim Carey is almost too much for the connivers here.

2. The impending resignation of Charlie Millard and his departure from Brussels scene by July 1959 completely alters the power situation within the ICFU Secretariat. If Pras, George Meany of the AFL-CIO takes a positive position and advances Irving Brown or Joe Keenan to succeed Charles Millard, the installation of a strong, dynamic, aggressive positive man as Director of Organization will not only lead Oldenbroek to retire at the 10th Congress (now a real possibility if the AFL-CIO takes vigorous action -- but will mean that Jay Krane will be reduced to size and the positively rotten and poisonous influence of this professional blackmailer and corruption artist will be lessened.

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I am convinced that the basic problem is not merely Oldenbrook but Jay Krane. Remove Krane or reduce him to size and the problem of Oldenbrook will be solved either by resignation in December 1959 or early retirement six months later. Oldenbrook wants to retire. So does his wife.

3. In my memorandum of 12 January 1959 outlining the possible strategy and tactics that could be used to completely changing the content and direction of the IOFTU, I saw the chances for action at the Sub-Committee Meeting of March 1959, the ILO Session this June and the Executive Council and Consultative Council to meet early in July now not in Brussels but in the city of Berlin. I also saw a center of power and a source of leverage in the ITR Conference of 12-13 February 1959.

The ITR Conference has produced a semi-independent ITR center which could be in fact the face of a new international trade union organization; and the March meeting of the sub-Committee has seen the eventual removal of Charlie Millard from the scene and the re-opening of the question of the nomination and election of a young, powerful and dynamic Director of Organization who can take on Oldenbrook and Krane and put the IOFTU back on the original tracks laid in 1949-1950.

4. In the same memorandum of 12 January I could see the possibility of strong and vigorous independent activities through the ITR. That has now not only become a vigorous possibility but the deal Oldenbrook made last Sunday with Schnitzler and Carey puts the seal of approval on the same. All that remains is to make nominations, get the TUC to okay it -- and get cracking.

Recommendations

1. That the AFL-CIO at once consider nominating and vigorously backing the man to replace Charlie Millard. This is absolutely essential and crucial.
2. The story of Millard's resignation should be gotten about just to make sure that he really does resign by June or July. Now that the Oldenbrook-Krane plot backfired with the Carey attack, they might try to get Charlie to stay on for another several months purely to block the election of a truly vigorous and intelligent Director of Organization. Do not under-estimate the political cunning of Oldenbrook.
3. With Irving travelling as much as he does, I am quite confident that by the time of the ILO session in Geneva, this June, that a rival candidate (or victim) can be found to at least stand against Oldenbrook. If he is non-European and non-white, he will win hands down. Of that I am sure.
4. In preparation for all this, I propose to go down to Geneva during the early part of April to confer with Zofka and our friendly ITR friends about who can be dug up to run against Oldenbrook and what can be done to exploit the opening created by the departure of Charlie Millard. This is to me the major break-through which I was sure would come this year. It has come.

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As to myself, Schmitzler agreed to my coming back during mid-April for consultation and a chance to sell my house and settle my mother (now 75) in a home or a good Catholic boarding institution in Brooklyn. I would like to spend much time in Washington being re-oriented and exchanging information, and also to have many hours with Rudy Faupl who can be extremely useful in June in terms of ILO contracts which Irving and myself can exploit in terms of what can be done at the July meeting of the ILO Executive Board.

5. If all this and more is done, I am now more confident that the ILO can be saved and the Tenth Congress will not be the burial we thought it would be a few months ago but the revitalization of what can and must become a dynamic and vigorous international free trade union organization.

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AND THE RECENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
IN Geneva

March 20, 1959

I can now confirm that the quarrel between Finance Officer Strauss and General Secretary Oldenbroek is very real and very serious. Strauss is of the opinion that the leaders of the ICFTU are virtually tossing money out of the windows and that within a year the ICFTU shall be bankrupt. Strauss bitterly opposed the holding of the Sub-Committee meeting in Geneva. The ICFTU staff which went (many of whom did nothing) cost U.S. \$3,000. With Belgian wage and price levels what they are, that is roughly £8 \$10,000. Strauss said that it was a complete waste of precious funds.

2. Meanwhile last week Oldenbroek and Gottfurcht had a bitter quarrel. Oldenbroek accused Gottfurcht of helping Deverall to draft the Staff Committee Wage Demand Document. Oldenbroek though he detected the hand of Gottfurcht in the two page demand which I drew up with the Staff -- and after a fight Oldenbroek finally conceded that Gottfurcht had nothing to do with inspiring Deverall.

To me such petty quarrels are sure signs of persons being rattled and very worried about the future of the ICFTU and the fate of the General Secretary at the Tenth Congress.

3. The clipping on the first page, while slanderous in that it associates Mike Piznas, Archbishop Makarios and Vincenzo Lombardo Tedesco -- while slanderous it does play up the fact that for once the British colonialists took a good share of the criticism at Geneva.

4. The next Executive Board will be held during 29 June-4 July 1959 in the City of Berlin.

5. The Sub-Committee took an excellent position on the Algerian situation and came out flatly for self-government and self-determination.

6. To me the most significant items to come from Geneva was the marching of Charlie Millard to the precipice (or the brink) -- and the growing feud between Oldenbroek and his Finance Officer. I cannot conceive that Fred Strauss is taking on Oldenbroek and Evans without the backing of Sir Vincent Tewson.

7. I am taking Strauss out to dinner the night of 26 March to pursue the financial problem further.

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21 March 1950.

Mr. George Kasey, Secretary
 AFL-CIO,
 615 - 15th Street, N.W.,
 Washington, D. C.
State Dept.

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 IN DATE 10/1/83 BY 6032 LON/CLM

Dear Sir and President Casey:-

1. The 21th Executive Board Meeting of the IOFTU will be staged in the City of Berlin during 28 June through 30 July 1950. Resolutions, proposals and so forth, if they are to be on the agenda, must be submitted to the General Secretary on or before the 15 July 1950.

2. The Tenth Anniversary Congress of the IOFTU will be staged in the City of Brussels during 8 - 12 December of this year. Resolutions and proposals, including any nominations for the General Secretaryship, will have to be in by 1 September 1950.

3. With regard to the Jointly Meeting of the Executive Board in Berlin, I expect that one crucial issue will be the resignation(?) of Charles Willard as the election by the Executive Board of Willard's successor. The Secretary-Generalship is awfully anxious that Willard not resign at this time probably because of the fear that the AFL-CIO may play an active part in nominating a younger and dynamic successor for Willard. I personally feel that the issue of Willard's resignation and retirement should be pressed in order to permit a break-through in the election of a successor who can breathe life into the IOFTU. There is no problem of the age of Willard - it is no problem. The problem is that Willard is simply not capable of understanding the way he has been manipulated nor can he understand that, once again, his position has changed.

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I therefore believe it is not that Franklin D. Roosevelt attending the General Conference in Washington not only because of the historic importance of Berlin and the role played by Paul, Henry, in 1933 at the time of the Berlin Unrest, but also because only the overwhelming weight of Pres. Henry's personality and dignity could bring about a basic change and effectuate the type of change which the U.S. which could not otherwise have done so, and which now has and the first into the U.S.

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The other candidate for the position of General Secretary will be nominated and elected at the General Assembly. I have no doubt but that Brother Videnski will be nominated and will be delighted to be re-elected, even though it is possible his intention to resign several months later in order to concentrate fully on his work for the ICFWU. However, Videnski, it must be said, is an intelligent man. Videnski would be a disaster for the ICFWU.

There is now the possibility that a 53-year old IFS President will escape the nomination in December. It is reported that he will be supported by the ICFWU and the AFL-CIO. His term report is forthcoming, and if the man does stand for re-election, it is very probable that Videnski will not contest but will resign at the next Congress. His present General Secretary is no friend and the members of Congress surrounding him at this time in a sure sign that the man there is devoid of conviction.

I am going to Kansas City tomorrow to have dinner with the one man who could possibly stand (and would really win) if he has the support. Most of his intentions come from friends who have been within the past few weeks. My purpose now is to find out as concretely as possible whether or not he could stand for the General Secretaryship — and, if he will, his conditions.

The elimination of Videnski at the January 1970 Executive Board meeting would constitute a breakthrough. The retirement of Videnski in December would mark the end of a poisonous era and could mean a true revitalization of the ICFWU and its struggle against colonialism and capitalism, and for free trade unionism all over the world.

6. The one again, then, that I would specifically suggest for the January Executive Board meeting would be the question of holding concrete talks with the ICFWU looking to the union of the ICFWU within the ICFWU. I am seeing Videnski within the week and shall report. But there is already concrete evidence that the man is sincerely for unification of ICFWU within the ICFWU — and there is no need in not trying to

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(c/r to day in NY)

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2. Finally, when in Geneva during the past few days, I have conferred with certain IES officials, and the new Secretary of the IES Conference (Mr. Borek Zofka, an old and intimate friend from my early days in Brussels). It can be confirmed that the IES have completed the break with the ICFTU and the leadership of Oldenbrook, that the IES can independently finance their own office and organization (under Zofka in Geneva) and that they are anxious to work with the AFL-CIO in launching what can be called independent activities throughout the economically underdeveloped areas of the world.

In this connection, when Bill Schnitzler was at a luncheon this past Sunday with Oldenbrook and Company, Oldenbrook has agreed (he said he always did) that if any IES affiliate or any national centre sends a request to the AFL-CIO for the aid, the AFL-CIO will nominate a man from the trade for the former, a general aide in the latter -- and the man in the former will go to the country as an IES delegate at the expense of the AFL-CIO and, in the latter case, he will go as a representative of the ICFTU, working under ICFTU policy but paid by the AFL-CIO. The only provision is that the ICFTU is to be informed of the fact and the name, and if Oldenbrook objects he will give his reasons to the AFL-CIO in writing. As we were talking with Bill Schnitzler on Sunday, the test of the promises Oldenbrook made will be found in the immediate nomination of several names in order to Test Brussels.

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A prominent ITC friend in Geneva said that Oldenbrook has made the concession to the AFL-CIO in order to get off any possible rival candidate for his job this coming December. If I know Oldenbrook, this probably not very wide of the mark.

3. The following are some of the facts regarding the general statements made in the first paragraphs:

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Recommendations

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5. The Sub-Committee took an excellent position on the Algerian situation and came out flatly for self-government and self-determination.

6. To me the most significant item to come from Geneva was the marching of Charlie Millard to the precipice (or the brink) -- and the growing feud between Oldenbroek and his Finance Officer. I cannot conceive that Fred Strauss is taking on Oldenbroek and Krane without the backing of Sir Vincent Tervon.

7. I am taking Strauss out to dinner the night of 26 March to pursue the financial problem further.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

31 March 1962.

Mr. George Henry, President,
AFL-CIO,
615 - 16th Street, N.W.,
Washington, 6, D. C.,
State Bldg.

Re: 24th Executive Board of IOFTU
in July and the Tenth Congress
in December 1962.

Dear Sir and President Henry:-

1. The 24th Executive Board meeting of the IOFTU will be staged in the City of Berlin during 29 June through to 4 July 1962. Resolutions, proposals and so forth, if they are to be on the agenda, must be submitted to the General Secretary on or before the 20 May 1962.

2. The Tenth Anniversary Congress of the IOFTU will be staged in the City of Brussels during 8 - 12 December of this year. Resolutions and proposals, including any nominations for the General Secretaryship, will have to be in by 1 September 1962.

3. With regard to the June/July Meeting of the Executive Board in Berlin, I submit that one crucial issue will be the resignation(?) of Charles Hillard and the election by the Executive Board of Hillard's successor. The Secretary-Generalship is seemingly anxious that Hillard not resign at this time probably because of the fear that the AFL-CIO may play an active part in nominating a younger and dynamic successor for Hillard. I personally feel that the issue of Hillard's resignation and retirement should be pressed in order to permit a break-through in the election of a successor who can breathe life into the IOFTU. There is no question of the age of Hillard - it is no problem. The problem is that Hillard is simply not capable of understanding the way he has been manipulated nor can he understand that those who serve him despise him utterly.

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Adolfo Lopez Obando

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Page 11

I therefore respectfully urge that President NEABY consider attending the June-July Executive Board meeting not only because of the historic importance of Berlin and the role played by Pres. Neary in 1963 at the time of the Berlin Uprising, but also because only the overwhelming weight of Pres. Neary's personality and dignity can bring about a basic change and effectuate the type of change within the ICFTU which would cut the Gordian knot of Jay Kruse and inject new life and new blood into the ICFTU.

Though must also be given to the nomination in due course of an Auditor. Why we did not do this at Paris is something which I still cannot understand as the election of an AFL-CIO auditor would cost the AFL-CIO absolutely nothing and would open the door to the AFL-CIO to understand these and for all tremendous wastage of funds taking place in Bruxelles from month to month.

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Page 10

The other crucial problem facing the Fourth Congress will be the nomination and election of the General Secretary. I have no doubt that that Brother Oldenbrook will be nominated and will be delighted to be re-elected, even though it is seemingly his intention to resign several months later in order to concentrate into the job his Grand Prince, Dr. Herman Patost. Oldenbrook, at least, is an intelligent man; Patost would be a disaster for the ICFU.

There is now the possibility that a 58-year old IIS President will accept the nomination in December if it is guaranteed that he will be supported by the DGB and the AFL-CIO. If such support is forthcoming, and if the man does stand for nomination -- I am then certain that Oldenbrook will not contest but will resign at the Fourth Congress. The present General Secretary is no fool; and the nervous atmosphere surrounding his office at this time is a sure sign that the one thing he dreads is opposition.

I am going to Geneva this weekend to have dinner with the one man who could possibly stand (and would surely win) if he has the support. What I know of his intentions comes from friends who have seen him within the past few weeks. My purpose now is to find out as completely as possible whether or not he would stand for the General Secretaryship -- and, if he will, his conditions.

The elimination of Miller at the June 1964 Executive Board Meeting would constitute a breakthrough. The retirement of Oldenbrook in December would mark the end of a poisonous era and could mean a true revitalization of the ICFU and its struggle against colonialism and communism, and for free trade unionism all over the world.

3. The one agenda item that I would specifically suggest for the June 1964 Executive Board meeting would be the question of holding concrete talks with the ICFU looking to the union of the ICFU within the ICFU. I am seeing Oldenbrook within the week and shall report, but there is already concrete evidence that the man is sincere for unification of ICFU within the ICFU -- and there is no sense in not trying to bring the ICFU

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17 April 1959.

Dear Mike:

(c/c to Jay in NY):

There has been considerable excitement here due to the receipt of word from the Minor's ITS that the caretaker of the CTC, David Salvador, has sent out invitations to all ITS to send word to their affiliates that observer and/or fraternal delegates are welcome at the election of new officials for the Cuban Labour movement.

The telegram is so worded that the affiliates of the ICFTU are quite clearly invited but the ICFTU is not invited.

I am going over to Dusseldorf tonight to meet Barak Zofka and some of the officials of the White Collar and Clerical International which is in Convention there until next Tuesday. Barak telephoned me today (after an urgent express airmail). He is, as you know, the new Secretary of the independent and autonomous ITS centre in Geneva and one of our best friends in this part of the world.

Best anon.

Best fraternally,

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LETTER FROM ALTERNATE -- March 18, 1959

Re: The December Congress of the ICFU and the
Recent meeting of the ICFU Sub-Committee
in Geneva.

1. The recent meeting of the ICFU Sub-Committee in Geneva (14-15 March 1959) was characterized by the following somewhat dramatic developments.

a) Sir Vincent Tawson arrived by plane and looked as if he were dying. Within a matter of hours he was found to have acute appendicitis, left a note, and returned to London very sick and is now in a hospital recovering from an operation;

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b) Last Thursday or Friday the two cronies of the office, Oldenbrook and Fred Strauss, had a violent quarrel over financial problems of the ICFU. The upshot was that Strauss refused to go to Geneva and Gottfricht, who had been told he could not go, was ultimately invited by Oldenbrook in order to cover the absence of Strauss;

c) Charlie Millard launched a horrible attack on the ICFU and the AFL-CIO. He was engaged bitterly by James Carey, and the upshot was that Carey lashed Millard and Millard announced to those present (Schnitzler, Oldenbrook, etc.) that he was finished and would resign effective the July meeting of the ICFU Executive Board. On return to Brussels on Tuesday, Millard collapsed in his office, was incoherent, and was taken home by his lady secretary and the driver of the ICFU.

d) With Millard out of the office in doctor's care for the nonce, Jack Kane has returned from Geneva ahead of schedule and seems to be thoroughly frightened because of the gossip in the office (which has been going on for over a year) that he has been deliberately sending Charlie on long airplane trips in an effort to kill Millard off and be done with the problem.

2. Finally, when in Geneva during the past few days, I have conferred with certain IES officials, and the new Secretary of the IES Conference (Mr. Borok Zofka, an old and intimate friend from my early days in Brussels). It can be confirmed that the IES have completed the break with the ICFU and the leadership of Oldenbrook, that the IES can independently finance their own office and organization (under Zofka in Geneva) and that they are anxious to work with the AFL-CIO in launching what can be called independent activities throughout the economically underdeveloped areas of the world.

In this connection, when Bill Schnitzler was at a luncheon this past Sunday with Oldenbrook and Company, Oldenbrook has agreed (he said he always did) that if any IES affiliate or any national centre sends a request to the AFL-CIO for the aid, the AFL-CIO will nominate a man from the trade for the former, a general aide in the latter -- and the man in the former will go to the country as an IES delegate at the expense of the AFL-CIO and, in the latter case, he will go as a representative of the ICFU, working under ICFU policy but paid by the AFL-CIO. The only provision is that the ICFU is to be informed of the fact and the name, and if Oldenbrook objects he will give his reasons to the AFL-CIO in writing. As we were talking with Bill Schnitzler on Sunday, the text of the promise Oldenbrook made will be found in the immediate nomination of several names in order to

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A prominent IES friend in Geneva said that Oldenbrook has made the suggestion to the AFL-CIO in order to buy off any possible rival candidate for his job this coming December. If I know Oldenbrook, this probably not very wide of the mark.

3. The following are some of the facts regarding the general statements made in the first paragraphs:

- (a) The departure of Sir Vincent Tawson cast a damper over the board meeting and has resulted in the postponement of many pressing problems (such as Africa) to the July Executive Board session in Brussels, even the ICFW-AFL-CIO agreement with Oldenbrook of this past Sunday as I understand, subject to the agreement of Sir Vincent Tawson.
- (b) The bitter quarrel between Strauss and Oldenbrook is, I believe over the financial solvency of the ICFW. Strauss has been increasingly critical of the waste of funds by the ICFW not only through the Solidarity Fund but in other directions. He has taken the position (as he has told me privately) that if Krane and Millard continue to take money out of the window at the current rate, the ICFW reserve funds will be gone within a year and the ICFW faces bankruptcy. Strauss is further of the mind that a wage increase is needed in order to retain the better elements of the staff; because I am heading the wage increase drive, Oldenbrook is bitterly opposed to any wage increase unless I agree to discharge several employees. The fight between Strauss and Oldenbrook is particularly significant as Strauss would never dare challenge Oldenbrook unless he had powerful support, i.e. Sir Vincent Tawson and the British T.U.C.
- (c) The Millard attack on the AFL-CIO and the URA came, I understand from Bill, at the end of the Sunday luncheon when Charlie declared that the U.S. Government had awarded 10 travel grants to Canadian labor leaders for study in the U.S.A. Millard declared this to be going over the head of the ICFW and launched a bitter attack on the AFL-CIO for not having intervened to quash the U.S. Government and its travel grants. Jim Carey (replied I understand that Schnitzler said little if anything) and really put Millard in his place. Millard was completely off-balance and was told by Carey. The upshot of the fight which I understand was quite bitter, was Charlie's promise that he would resign on or before the Executive Board this coming July. If Charlie really resigns (Bill took notes and the resignation is on the record), that means his special assistant Malles goes and, more dramatically, it opens the door for Jay Krane to try and take over as Director of Organization.

After Charlie left Geneva and returned to Brussels in a very sick state, he phoned Jay Krane in Geneva (Tuesday noon, I understand) and had a chat with Krane informing him that he was very sick and could not make the long trip to Africa which Krane had planned for Millard. Krane agreed to return to Brussels early but, I am told, didn't even have the decency to tell Charlie he hoped he would soon be well. Charlie then left the office and the assistance of his family.

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Secretary was so sick that the ICFU driver had to pilot Charlie and his car back to his home.

- (d) Both Oldenbroek and Krane are frightened by the very real revolt of the IES and their determination not only to run their own show but to work with the AFL-CIO and ICFU in expanding independent operations. They key man in all of this is my old friend and confidante, Morsk Zofka, who has left the ICFU payroll and is now the independent secretary of the IES organization in Geneva. As Foulson of Food and Drink said Sunday night at a dinner party tendered by Schnitzler, the IES setting up of its organization in Geneva and the expansion of independent activities means, in fact that the dying ICFU is already being succeeded by a "new international trade union organization." This is to me the most significant thing I learned in Geneva during the past few days.

Comments

1. Possibly the most interesting feature of the Millard explosion is that Jay Krane not only returned to Brussels post haste (arriving last night) but he called a meeting of his staff, including the stenographers who are friendly with me, to explain that Charlie had "gone mad" in Geneva and provoked the fight with the AFL-CIO.

I had dinner with the girls last night.

If I know Oldenbroek and Jay Krane, they charged Charlie up with the dope on Ghana and egged him into what he thought was an honest issue. When Millard tangled with the AFL-CIO in a fight which he could not possibly win, however, Oldenbroek and Krane miscalculated for it was not Schnitzler who led the attack but Jim Carey -- and a man regarded as friendly to the Administration of the ICFU. Jim was honestly incensed by the sheer stupidity of the Millard attack and he did a straightforward trade union job (from what I have heard of it. This has rattled Krane for it is not the so-called "Meany faction" causing the trouble but the so-called "Rautner-Carey" faction.

From what the girls have told me, Krane was very indefinite about who attacked Millard just as he has made no reference to the fact that Millard has resigned.

Krane and Oldenbroek have desired the resignation of Charlie Millard since he arrived in August 1956 -- but to have that resignation forced by Jim Carey is almost too much for the conspirers here.

2. The impending resignation of Charlie Millard and his departure from Brussels scene by July 1959 completely alters the power situation within the ICFU Secretariat. If Pres. George Meany of the AFL-CIO takes a positive position and advances Irving Brown or Joe Keenan to succeed Charles Millard, the installation of a strong, dynamic, aggressive positive man as Director of Organization will not only lead Oldenbroek to retire at the 10th Congress (now a real possibility if the AFL-CIO takes vigorous action -- but will mean that Jay Krane will be reduced to size and the positively rotten and poisonous influence of this professional blackmailer and corruption artist will see its end.

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I am convinced that the basic problem is not merely Oldenbrook but Jay Krane. Remove Krane or reduce him to size and the problem of Oldenbrook will be solved either by resignation in December 1959 or early retirement six months later. Oldenbrook wants to retire. So does his wife.

3. In my memorandum of 12 January 1959 outlining the possible strategy and tactics that could be used to completely changing the content and direction of the IOFTU, I saw the chances for action at the Sub-Committee Meeting of March 1959, the ILO Session this June and the Executive Council and Consultative Council to meet early in July now not in Brussels but in the city of Berlin. I also saw a center of power and a source of leverage in the ITS Conference of 12-13 February 1959.

The ITS Conference has produced a semi-independent ITS center which could be in fact the face of a new international trade union organization; and the March meeting of the sub-Committee has seen the eventual removal of Charlie Millard from the scene and the re-opening of the question of the nomination and election of a young, powerful and dynamic Director of Organization who can take on Oldenbrook and Krane and put the IOFTU back on the original tracks laid in 1949-1950.

4. In the same memorandum of 12 January I could see the possibility of strong and vigorous independent activities through the ITS. That has now not only become a vigorous possibility but the deal Oldenbrook made last Sunday with Schnitzler and Carey puts the seal of approval on the same. All that remains is to make nominations, get the TUC to okch it -- and get cracking.

Recommendations

1. That the AFL-CIO at once consider nominating and vigorously backing the man to replace Charlie Millard. This is absolutely essential and crucial.
2. The story of Millard's resignation should be gotten about just to make sure that he really does resign by June or July. Now that the Oldenbrook-Krane plot backfired with the Carey attack, they might try to get Charlie to stay on for another several months purely to block the election of a truly vigorous and intelligent Director of Organization. Do not under-estimate the political cunning of Oldenbrook.
3. With Irving travelling as much as he does, I am quite confident that by the time of the ILO session in Geneva, this June, that a rival candidate (or victim) can be found to at least stand against Oldenbrook. If he is non-European and non-white, he will win hands down. Of that I am sure.
4. In preparation for all this, I propose to go down to Geneva during the early part of April to confer with Zofka and our friendly ITS friends about who can be dug up to run against Oldenbrook and what can be done to exploit the opening created by the departure of Charlie Millard. This is to me the major break-through which I was sure would come this year. It has come.

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As to myself, Schmitzler agreed to my coming back during mid-April for consultation and a chance to sell my house and settle my mother (now 75) in a home or a good Catholic boarding institution in Brooklyn. I would like to spend much time in Washington being re-oriented and exchanging information, and also to have many hours with Eddy Fajol who can be extremely useful in June in terms of ILO contacts which Irving and myself can exploit in terms of what can be done at the July meeting of the IFTU Executive Board.

5. If all this and more is done, I am now more confident that the IFTU can be saved and the Tenth Congress will not be the burial we thought it would be a few months ago but the revitalization of what can and must become a dynamic and vigorous international free trade union organization.

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SECRET**LETTER FROM DEVERALL****DISCUSSION WITH THE IOFTU LEADERSHIP
AND THE RECENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
IN Geneva**

March 20, 1959

I can now confirm that the quarrel between Finance Officer Strauss and General Secretary Oldenbroek is very real and very serious. Strauss is of the opinion that the leaders of the IOFTU are virtually tossing money out of the windows and that within a year the IOFTU shall be bankrupt. Strauss bitterly opposed the holding of the Sub-Committee meeting in Geneva. The IOFTU staff which went (many of whom did nothing) cost U.S. \$3,000. With Belgian wage and price levels what they are, that is roughly \$10,000. Strauss said that it was a complete waste of precious funds.

2. Meanwhile last week Oldenbroek and Gottfurcht had a bitter quarrel. Oldenbroek accused Gottfurcht of helping Deverall to draft the Staff Committee Wage Demand Document. Oldenbroek though he detested the hand of Gottfurcht in the two page demand which I drew up with the Staff -- and after a fight Oldenbroek finally conceded that Gottfurcht had nothing to do with inspiring Deverall.

To me such petty quarrels are sure signs of persons being rattled and very worried about the future of the IOFTU and the fate of the General Secretary at the Tenth Congress.

3. The blipping on the first page, while slanderous in that it associates Mike Pissas, Archbishop Makarios and Vincent Lombardo, while slanderous it does play up the fact that for once the British colonialists took a good share of the criticism at Geneva.

4. The next Executive Board will be held during 29 June-4 July 1959 in the City of Berlin.

5. The Sub-Committee took an excellent position on the Algerian situation and came out flatly for self-government and self-determination.

6. To me the most significant item to come from Geneva was the marching of Charlie Millard to the precipice (or the brink) -- and the growing feud between Oldenbroek and his Finance Officer. I cannot conceive that Fred Strauss is taking on Oldenbroek and Krane without the backing of Sir Vincent Dawson.

7. I am taking Strauss out to dinner the night of 25 March to pursue the financial problem further.

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31 March 1969.

Mr. George Henry, President,
AFL-CIO,
1215 - 16th Street, N.W.,
Washington, 6, D. C.,
State Union.

For Executive Board of IOFTU
in July and the Youth Congress
in December 1969.

Dear Sir and President Henry:-

1. The 24th Executive Board meeting of the IOFTU will be staged in the City of Berlin during 30 June through to 4 July 1969. Resolutions, proposals and so forth, if they are to be on the agenda, must be submitted to the General Secretary on or before 31st May 1969.

2. The Youth Anniversary Congress of the IOFTU will be staged in the City of Brussels during 8 - 12 December of this year. Resolutions and proposals, including any nominations for the General Secretaryship, will have to be in by 1 September 1969.

3. With regard to the January Meeting of the Executive Board in Berlin, I submit that one crucial issue will be the resignation(?) of Charles Millard and the election by the Executive Board of Millard's successor. The Secretary-Generalship is seemingly anxious that Millard not resign at this time probably because of the fear that the AFL-CIO may play an active part in nominating a younger and dynamic successor for Millard. I personally feel that the issue of Millard's resignation and retirement should be pressed in order to permit a break-through and the election of a successor who can breathe life into the IOFTU. There is no question of the age of Millard - it is no problem. The problem is that Millard is simply not capable of understanding the way he has been manipulated.

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1. Therefore, hypothesizing that the ICVTU essentially represents the
dominant ICVTU ICVTU ICVTU and only members of the ICVTU ICVTU
Group of ICVTU and the ICVTU played by ICVTU. ICVTU in 1965 at the time of
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through that time he has been the only person in the country of an Auditor.
Why we did not do this is that is something which I will stand under-
stand as one of the other of our old-fashioned people would say the old-time
Auditors, and would I mean the day to the old-time understanding of
the old-time people.

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The other crucial meeting being the United Nations will in the near future and election of the General Secretary. I have no doubt that Brother Eisenhower will be nominated and will be delighted to be elected, even though it is possibly his intention to resign several months later in order to concentrate on the job his Grace Prince, Mr. Norman Foster. Eisenhower, of course, is an idealist and may Foster could be a disaster for the IRTU.

There is now the possibility that a 35-year old Mr. Eisenhower will accept the nomination in December if it is understood that he will be supported by the IRTU and the AFL-CIO. I am not sure of the facts, but if the man does stand for nomination -- I am then certain that Eisenhower will not contest but will retire at the United Nations. The present General Secretary is no fool; and the nervous atmosphere surrounding his office at this time is a sure sign that the man is being his friend in opposition.

I am going to leave this matter to the IRTU with the one man who could possibly stand (and could easily win) if he has the support. What I know of his intentions comes from friends who have been in contact with him for years. My purpose now is to find out as accurately as possible whether or not he would stand for the General Secretaryship -- and, if he will, his conditions.

The elimination of Millard at the January Executive Board meeting would constitute a breakthrough. The retirement of Eisenhower in December would mark the end of a poisonous era and could mean a true revitalization of the IRTU and its struggle against colonialism and capitalism, and for free trade unionism all over the world.

6. The one agent that I would specifically suggest for the Executive Board meeting will be the question of building concrete talks with the IRTU to have on the basis of the IRTU within the IRTU. I am seeing Eisenhower within the week and shall report, but there is already concrete evidence that the man is already for the revitalization of IRTU within the IRTU -- and there is no sense in not trying it being the IRTU's to do so.

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17 April 1959.

Dear Mike:

(c/c to Jay in NY):

There has been considerable excitement here due to the receipt of word from the Miner's ITS that the caretaker of the CTC, David Salvador, has sent out invitations to all ITS to send word to their affiliates that observer and/or fraternal delegates are welcome at the election of new officials for the Cuban labour movement.

The telegram is so worded that the affiliates of the ICFTU are quite clearly invited but the ICFTU is not invited.

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More anon.

Most fraternally,

Dick

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